

Message Text

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ACTION SCI-06

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SCI FOR BLOOM

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, ENRG, OSCI, JA, US

SUBJECT: NSF: GLOSAS PROJECT

1. ON BASIS OF MATERIAL FURNISHED BY ESCHBACK OF BATTELLE, SCICOUNS HAS DISCUSSED WITH RESPONSIBLE MITI OFFICIALS QUESTION OF WHICH JAPANESE ORGANIZATION IS AUTHORIZED TO WORK WITH BATTELLE ON GLOSAS PROJECT. SCICOUNS CONCLUDED THAT THIS QUESTION SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO MITI, AS RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT AGENCY PROVIDING FUNDS, RATHER THAN TO JAPAN COMPUTER USAGE DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (JCUDI), WHICH IS NOT GOVERNMENTAL, AND MIGHT HAVE PRO-INDUSTRY BIAS..

2. MITI OFFICIALS, WHO QUITE FAMILIAR WITH BACKGROUND BUT ASTONISHED TO LEARN OF LENGTHS TO WHICH SO-CALLED JAPAN GLOSAS PROJECT COMMITTEE HAD GONE, (THEY HAD NEVER HEARD OF COMMITTEE AS SUH), STATED EMPHATICALLY THAT MITSUBISHI RESEARCH INSTITUTE (.48) WAS ONLY ORGANIZATION WHICH WOULD UNDERTAKE JAPAN'S ROLE IN GLOSAS. HOWEVER, MITI EMPHASIZED THAT QUESTION OF WHETHER JAPAN WILL PARTICIPATE IN GLOSAS HAS NOT YET BEEN DECIDED YET. DISCUSSIONS ARE CURRENTLY GOING ON BETWEEN MITI AND MRI AS TO JAPAN'S FUTURE PARTICIPATION IN THE PROJECT. MITI IS, IN FACT, FAVORABLY DISPOSED TOWARD PARTICIPATION, AND PRINCIPAL ISSUES ARE A) WHETHER MRI CONTINUES TO HAVE NECESSARY TECHNICAL CAPABILITY, FOLLOWING UTSUMI'S DEPARTURE, TO PARTICIPATE EFFECTIVELY, AND B) WHETHER PROJECT, UNDER MAKINO'S LEADERSHIP,

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WILL BE SUBSTANTIVELY THE SAME AS THAT DEVELOPED BY UTSUMI.

MITI IS CONTEMPLATING GRANT TO MRI THROUGH JCUDI, OF
25,000,000 YEN, BUT CONTRARY TO IMPRESSION GIVEN BY MAKINO,
GRANT IS NOT YET NOT APPROVED, AND DEPENDS ON MITI'S DECISION
ON FUTURE JAPANESE PARTICIPATION. MITI HOPES TO REACH DECISION
WITHIN ONE MONTH.

3. IN RESPONSE TO REPEATED QUESTIONING, MITI STATED CATEGORICALLY
THAT ONLY ALTERNATIVES UNDER CONSIDERATION ARE CONTINUED GOJ
PARTICIPATION THROUGH MRI, OR TERMINATION OF PARTICIPATION. THUS,
BATTELLE SHOULD CONTINUE TO DEAL WITH MRI AS ONLY AUTHORIZED
JAPANESE PARTICIPANT IN GLOSAS.
HODGSON

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